

Message Text

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45

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /155 W

----- 079870

R 091423Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8894

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 4097

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SA, MI

SUBJECT: NEIGHBOR'S HOUSE ON FIRE STATEMENT

REF: BLANTYRE 1520; PRETORIA A-220; PRETORIA 3731 (NOTAL)

1. IN 1971 PRIME MINISTER VORSTER SAID THAT GOOD NEIGHBOR
KNEW WHAT TO DO WHEN HE SAW HIS NEIGHBOR'S HOUSE ON FIRE.
STATEMENT WAS IN CONTEXT OF POSTING SOUTH AFRICAN POLICEMEN
TO RHODESIA.

2. VOSTER'S 1971 STATEMENT QUOTED IN REFERENCE TO MALAWI
BY DEPUTY MINISTER OF POLICE JIMMY KRUGER IN AUGUST 24, 1973
SPEECH AT UNIVERSITY OF POTCHEFSTROM SYMPOSIUM (REFAIR).
KRUGER SAID MALAWI OF TREMENDOUS STRATEGIC VALUE TO GUERRILAS
AND THAT "IT IS TOTALLY UNTHINKABLE THAT SOUTH AFRICA WILL STAND
WITH ARMS FOLDED AND WATCH HOW A FRIENDLY COUNTRY WITH A SMALL
ARMY IS BEING UNDERMINED AND POSSIBLY EVEN OVERWHELMED BY
THE ENEMIES OF SOUTH AFRICA"

3. HOUSE ON FIRE PHRASE ALSO USED BY MINISTER OF INTERIOR
C.P. MULDER DURING AUGUST 30 TELEVISED PRESS CONFERENCE IN
SALISBURY. IN PLEDGING CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR RHODESIA HE SAID:
"WE KNOW WHAT TO DO IF OUR NEIGHBOR'S HOUSE IS ON FIRE"

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(PRETORIA 3174).

4. IN LIGHT OF ABOVE, IT APPEARS NEIGHBOR'S HOUSE ON FIRE
STATEMENT (BLANTYRE 1520) REFERRED TO KRUGER'S QUOTE OF EARLIER
VOSTER STATMENT. IT WAS KRUGER AND NOT VOSTER WHO APPLIED
STATEMENT TO MALAWI. HURD

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 09 NOV 1973
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Errors: N/A
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: PFOR, PINS, MASS, MI, SF, RH
To: STATE
Type: TE
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